

AMENDMENT

Please enter the following amendments:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The catalyst with a large pore support ~~(and including the spinel-supported catalyst)~~ preferably has a pore volume of 5 to 98%, more preferably 30 to 95% of the total porous material's volume. Preferably, at least 20% (more preferably at least 50%) of the material's pore volume is composed of pores in the size (diameter) range of 0.1 to 300 microns, more preferably 0.3 to 200 microns, and still more preferably 1 to 100 microns. Pore volume and pore size distribution are measured by mercury porosimetry (assuming cylindrical geometry of the pores) and nitrogen adsorption. As is known, mercury porosimetry and nitrogen adsorption are complementary techniques with mercury porosimetry being more accurate for measuring large pore sizes (larger than 30 nm) and nitrogen adsorption more accurate for small pores (less than 50 nm). Pore sizes in the range of about 0.1 to 300 microns enable molecules to diffuse molecularly through the materials under most gas phase catalysis conditions.